

DESCRIPTION OF TWO NEW SPECIES OF AUSTRALIAN BUPRESTIDAE OF  
THE GENUS STIGMODERA.

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(Two Text-figures.)

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*Synopsis.*

The following are described as new: *Stigmodera* (*Castiarina*) *vallisii*, *Stigmodera* (*Themognatha*) *macqueeni*.

STIGMODERA (CASTIARINA) VALLISII, n. sp. (Text-fig. 1.)

Oblong, ovate. Head and prothorax: bright bronzy-green. Antennae, scutellum and legs dark-green. Elytra yellow with bluish-green markings as follows: a narrow sutural stem surrounding the scutellum, two fasciae, neither of them reaching the external margins, and an apical mark narrowly connected along the suture with the second fascia; the first fascia connected with the base by a narrow sutural stem branching at basal fourth on each side of the elytra into two semi-triangular roundish spots suggesting the upper wings of a butterfly, the second, postmedian, nearly twice the size of the first one, branching similarly into two pear-shaped parts, one on each elytron, the pear stalk directed more or less obliquely upwards.

*Head* fairly deeply excavated with an impressed line between the eyes and regularly punctate. *Thorax*: sides rounded, anterior margin nearly straight, posterior angles acute, the base only slightly sinuate, with a shallow medial fovea, surface covered with close deep punctures, deeper at sides, smaller in the basal part of the medial dorsal line which is terminated in a small fovea, the sides much widened near the base and obliquely narrowed to apex. Near each posterior angle is a small angular impression. *Elytra* little widened behind shoulders and middle, punctate-striate, the punctation being very close and the intervals much impressed. Sides sinuate above the middle, apical border minutely serrated, apices largely rounded, not spinose.

*Underside* dull green, abdomen minutely punctate, the sternum covered with a cinereous pubescence.

*Dimensions*: 15 × 7 mm.

*Habitat*: Mt. Speck, Northern Queensland (Close Vallis).

Two examples, both ♀, of this pretty and very distinct species discovered by Mr. C. Vallis, a prominent Queensland naturalist to whom it is dedicated.

It is superficially, although a much smaller insect, somewhat of the *S. secularis* type, but its size and pattern alone are sufficient to distinguish it from other previously described species.

*Type* in Mr. Vallis's collection. Paratype in the author's collection.

STIGMODERA (THEMOGNATHA) MACQUEENI, n. sp. (Text-fig. 2.)

Ovate, subcylindric. Head and antennae bronzy-green, the former with bright-green reflections on apex and coppery hue on base. Pronotum bronzy-green with bright-

green tinge on the side margins. Legs green, scutellum bright-coppery. Elytra yellow with the arcuate apical mark and the narrow post-median suture green.

*Head* only slightly excavated, densely and finely rugose, punctate. *Pronotum* strongly convex, smooth, finely and evenly punctate, apex almost straight, base slightly sinuate, anterior side margins strongly raised and channelled, the latter especially much widened and rounded behind middle. Surface smooth and moderately punctured except at sides where punctation is deeper, with a smooth medial dorsal line faintly indicated on basal half met at the base with a small faint impression. *Scutellum* small, subcordate, concave. *Elytra* much rounded, strongly attenuated behind, each elytron rather widely subtruncate and rounded, not spinose, the sutural points feebly produced and divergent, with a wide oblique excision at extremity. Striate-punctate; intervals flat or nearly so throughout, distinctly but sparsely punctate. Underside finely punctate, covered with short white pubescence.

*Dimensions*: ♀, 17 × 8 mm.; ♂, 14½ × 7 mm.

*Habitat*: Southern Queensland: Milmerran (J. Macqueen). Three specimens examined, 1 ♀, 2 ♂. All are identical in colour and markings. This new species is undoubtedly fairly closely related to *S. saundersi* Waterh., their morphological charac-



Fig. 1. *Stigmodera (Castiarina) vallisii*, n. sp. (×4.)

Fig. 2. *Stigmodera (Themognatha) macqueeni*, n. sp. (×4.)

teristics being somewhat similar, and it could possibly be regarded as a subspecies of *S. saundersi*. The differences between the two are, however, numerous and important: 1, *S. saundersi* is a consistently larger, broader and more globular insect; 2, The elytral patterns of the two species are entirely different: all elytral markings of *S. saundersi* with the exception of the arcuate apical mark are absent in the new species; 3, The vivid red colour so conspicuous in *S. saundersi* is not to be seen in the new species, while yellow, the dominant elytral colour of the new species, is quite absent in *saundersi*; 4, The apical forms of the two differ, the margins being more raised and channelled in the new species and the arcuate excision being wider and more obliquely pronounced.

Mr. Macqueen informs me that he has two examples showing traces of a median fascia, one in the form of a very thin line, the second only slightly indicated by a tiny round dot on each elytron, not reaching sides or suture in either case.

I feel a real pleasure in naming this new species after its captor, Mr. J. Macqueen, who has been for years a most experienced student and lover of the insect fauna of Australia.

*Type* in Coll. Macqueen: 1 paratype each in the Australian Museum, Sydney, and the author's collection.